

into a desired, normal, or simpler state <an ~ hernia> — **ir-re-duc-ibil-i-ty** \,d(y)ü-sä-'bil-ät-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties  
**ir-reg-u-lar** \(')ir-'(r)eg-yä-lär\ *adj* 1: lacking perfect symmetry of form: not straight, smooth, even, or regular <~ teeth> 2 a: lacking continuity or regularity of occurrence, activity, or function <~ breathing> **b** of a physiological function: failing to occur at regular or normal intervals <~ menstruation> <have your bowels been ~> **c** of an individual: failing to defecate at regular or normal intervals <was constipated and very ~> — **ir-reg-u-lar-ly** *adv*  
**ir-reg-u-lar-i-ty** \(')ir-'(r)eg-yä-'lar-ät-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the quality or state of being irregular <hormonal ~> 2: CONSTIPATION <when you suffer from ~, buy the . . . brand of laxative>  
**ir-re-me-di-a-ble** \,ir-i-'mēd-ē-ä-bäl\ *adj*: impossible to remedy or cure  
**ir-re-spi-ra-ble** \i(r)-'res-p(ə)-rə-bäl, -ri-'spī-rə-\ *adj*: unfit for breathing <an ~ vapor>  
**ir-re-spon-si-ble** \,ir-i-'spän(t)-sə-bäl\ *adj*: not responsible: mentally inadequate to bear responsibility — **ir-re-spon-si-bil-i-ty** \,spän(t)-sə-'bil-ät-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties  
**ir-re-vers-ible** \,ir-i-'vər-sə-bäl\ *adj*: incapable of being reversed: as **a**: impossible to make run or take place backward <~ chemical syntheses> **b** of a colloid: incapable of undergoing transformation from sol to gel or vice versa **c** of a pathological process: of such severity that recovery is impossible <~ shock> <~ anoxic damage to the brain> — **ir-re-vers-ibil-i-ty** \,vər-sə-'bil-ät-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties — **ir-re-vers-ibly** \-'vər-sə-blē\ *adv*  
**ir-ri-gate** \,ir-ə-'gāt\ *vt* -gat-ed; -gat-ing: to flush (a body part) with a stream of liquid (as in removing a foreign body or medicating) <~ a wound> — **ir-ri-ga-tion** \,ir-ə-'gā-shən\ *n*  
**ir-ri-ga-tor** \,ir-ə-'gāt-ər\ *n*: an apparatus used for irrigation <a dental ~>  
**ir-ri-ta-bil-i-ty** \,ir-ät-ə-'bil-ät-ē\ *n*, *pl* -ties 1: the property of protoplasm and of living organisms that permits them to react to stimuli 2 **a**: quick excitability to annoyance, impatience, or anger **b**: abnormal or excessive excitability of an organ or part of the body (as the stomach or bladder)  
**ir-ri-ta-ble** \,ir-ät-ə-bäl\ *adj*: characterized by irritability: as **a**: easily exasperated or excited **b**: responsive to stimuli  
**irritable bowel syndrome** *n*: a functional commonly psychosomatic disorder of the colon characterized by the secretion and passage of large amounts of mucus, by constipation alternating with diarrhea, and by cramping abdominal pain — called also *irritable colon*, *irritable colon syndrome*, *mucous colitis*, *spastic colon*  
**irritable colon** *n*: IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME  
**irritable colon syndrome** *n*: IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME  
**irritable heart** *n*: NEUROCIRCULATORY ASTHENIA  
**ir-ri-tant** \,ir-ä-tänt\ *adj*: causing irritation; *specif*: tending to produce inflammation  
**irritant** *n*: something that irritates or excites; *specif*: an agent by which irritation is produced <a chemical ~>  
**ir-ri-tate** \,ir-ä-'tāt\ *vb* -tat-ed; -tat-ing *vt* 1: to provoke impatience, anger, or displeasure in 2: to cause (an organ or tissue) to be irritable: produce irritation in <harsh soaps may ~ the skin> 3: to produce excitation in (as a nerve): cause (as a muscle) to contract ~ *vi*: to induce irritation  
**ir-ri-ta-tion** \,ir-ä-'tä-shən\ *n* 1 **a**: the act of irritating **b**: something that irritates **c**: the state of being irritated 2: a condition of irritability, soreness, roughness, or inflammation of a bodily part  
**ir-ri-ta-tive** \,ir-ä-'tät-iv\ *adj* 1: serving to excite: IRRITATING <an ~ agent> 2: accompanied with or produced by irritation <~ coughing>  
**ir-ru-ma-tion** \,ir-ü-'mä-shən\ *n*: FELLATIO — **ir-ru-mate** \,ir-ü-'mät\ *vt* -mat-ed; -mat-ing — **ir-ru-ma-tor** \,mät-ər\ *n*  
**isa-tin** \,i-sä-tən\ *n*: an orange red crystalline compound  $C_{12}H_8N_2O_4$  obtained esp. by oxidation of indigo or by various syntheses and used as a reagent  
**is-aux-e-sis** \,is-ög-'zē-səs, -ök-'sē-\ *n*, *pl* -e-ses \-,sēz\ : ISOGLYCOXY — **is-aux-et-ic** \-'zēt-ik, -'set-\ *adj*  
**isch-emia** or chiefly *Brit* **isch-ae-mia** \is-'kē-mē-ə\ *n*: localized tissue anemia due to obstruction of the inflow of arterial blood

(as by the narrowing of arteries by spasm or disease) — **isch-emic** or chiefly *Brit* **isch-ae-mic** \-mīk\ *adj* — **isch-emi-cal-ly** or chiefly *Brit* **isch-ae-mi-cal-ly** \-mī-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*  
**ischemic contracture** *n*: shortening and degeneration of a muscle resulting from deficient blood supply  
**ischia** *pl* of ISCHIUM  
**is-chi-al** \is-'kē-əl\ *adj*: of, relating to, or situated near the ischium  
**is-chi-al-gia** \is-'kē-'al-j(ē)-ə\ *n*: pain in the hip  
**ischial spine** *n*: a thin pointed triangular eminence that projects from the dorsal border of the ischium and gives attachment to the gemellus superior on its external surface and to the coccygeus, levator ani, and pelvic fascia on its internal surface  
**ischial tuberosity** *n*: a bony swelling on the posterior part of the superior ramus of the ischium that gives attachment to various muscles and bears the weight of the body in sitting  
**is-chi-at-ic** \is-'kē-'at-ik\ *adj*: ISCHIAL  
**is-chi-ec-to-my** \is-'kē-'ek-tə-mē\ *n*, *pl* -mies: surgical removal of a segment of the hipbone including the ischium  
**is-chio-cap-su-lar** \is-'kē-ō-'kap-sə-lär\ *adj*: ISCHIOFEMORAL  
**is-chio-cav-er-no-sus** \,kav-ər-'nō-səs\ *n*, *pl* -no-sī \-,sī\ : a muscle on each side that arises from the ischium near the crus of the penis or clitoris and is inserted on the crus near the pubic symphysis  
**is-chio-coc-cy-geus** \-kāk-'sij-ē-səs\ *n*, *pl* -cy-gei \-ē-i\ : COCCYGEUS  
**is-chio-fem-o-ral** \-'fem-(ə)rəl\ *adj*: of, relating to, or being an accessory ligament of the hip joint passing from the ischium below the acetabulum to blend with the capsular ligament  
**is-chi-op-a-gus** \is-'kē-'äp-ə-gəs\ *n*: congenitally united twins that are fused at the hip  
**is-chio-pu-bic** \is-'kē-ō-'pyü-bik\ *adj*: of or relating to the ischium and the pubis  
**ischiopubic ramus** *n*: the flattened inferior projection of the hipbone below the obturator foramen consisting of the united inferior rami of the pubis and ischium  
**is-chio-rec-tal** \is-'kē-ō-'rek-tl\ *adj*: of, relating to, or adjacent to both ischium and rectum <pelvic ~ abscess>  
**is-chi-um** \is-'kē-əm\ *n*, *pl* is-chia \-ə\ : the dorsal and posterior of the three principal bones composing either half of the pelvis consisting in man of a thick portion, a large rough eminence on which the body rests when sitting, and a forwardly directed ramus which joins that of the pubis  
**isch-uria** \isk-'yür-ē-ə\ *n*: stoppage or reduction in the flow of urine either from blockage of a passage with resulting retention in the bladder or from disease of the kidneys  
**is-ethi-o-nate** \,is-i-'thī-ə-,nät\ *n*: a salt or ester of isethionic acid  
**is-ethi-on-ic acid** \,is-,ē-thē-,än-ik-\ *n*: a crystalline sulfonic acid  $C_2H_5O_3S$  used esp. in making surface-active agents  
**Ishi-ha-ra** \,ish-ē-'här-ə\ *adj*: of, relating to, or used in an Ishihara test <~ plates> <~ method>  
**Ishihara, Shinobu (1879-1963)**, Japanese ophthalmologist. Ishihara introduced his test for color blindness in 1917. The test calls for the discernment of figures or patterned lines formed from colored dots placed in a field of dots of another color. Ishihara also published studies of Daltonism and trachoma.  
**Ishihara test** *n*: a widely used test for color blindness that consists of a set of plates covered with colored dots which the test subject views in order to find a number composed of dots of one color which a person with various defects of color vision will confuse with surrounding dots of color  
**isin-glass** \,iz-'n-,glas, 'i-zīŋ-\ *n* 1: a semitransparent whitish very pure gelatin prepared from the air bladders of fishes (as sturgeons) and used esp. as a clarifying agent and in jellies and glue — called also *ichthyocolla* 2: MICA  
**is-land** \,i-länd\ *n*: an isolated anatomical structure, tissue, or group of cells

\ə\abut \ə\kitten \ər\urther \ə\ash \ä\ace \ä\cot, cart  
 \ä\out \ch\chin \e\bet \ē\easy \g\go \j\hit \r\ice \j\job  
 \ŋ\sing \ō\go \ō\law \oi\boy \th\thin \th\the \ü\loot  
 \ü\foot \y\yet \zh\vision see also Pronunciation Symbols page